

Postal Service located at 185 State Street in Manhattan, Illinois, as the "Army Pvt. Shawn Pahnke Manhattan Post Office".

The Clerk read as follows:

H.R. 3537

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. ARMY PVT. SHAWN PAHNKE MANHATTAN POST OFFICE.

(a) DESIGNATION.—The facility of the United States Postal Service located at 185 State Street in Manhattan, Illinois, shall be known and designated as the "Army Pvt. Shawn Pahnke Manhattan Post Office".

(b) REFERENCES.—Any reference in a law, map, regulation, document, paper, or other record of the United States to the facility referred to in subsection (a) shall be deemed to be a reference to the Army Pvt. Shawn Pahnke Manhattan Post Office.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentlewoman from Michigan (Mrs. MILLER) and the gentleman from the District of Columbia (Ms. NORTON) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from Michigan (Mrs. MILLER).

GENERAL LEAVE

Mrs. MILLER of Michigan. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days within which to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material on H.R. 3537.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentlewoman from Michigan?

There was no objection.

Mrs. MILLER of Michigan. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, the second post office designation bill in honor of an Iraq war victim pays tribute to the courage and service of Army Private Shawn Pahnke.

This legislation, H.R. 3537, names a United States Postal Service Facility after Private Shawn Pahnke of Manhattan, Illinois, the town in which Shawn grew up.

Mr. Speaker, Shawn was another hero serving in Iraq to secure the freedom of all Iraqi citizens. Private Pahnke enlisted in October of 2002 right after getting married to his wife, Elisha. He left with the First Armored Division for Freidberg, Germany, four days before the birth of his son, Dean, on March 20, 2003. Sadly, Shawn would never meet his son. While patrolling the streets of Baghdad in a Humvee armored vehicle, a single bullet was fired into the vehicle and struck Private Pahnke in the back, fatally wounding him.

Mr. Speaker, Shawn's lifelong dream was to serve in the military. In the days after his son's death, his father, Tom, told about the letter Shawn had written to his family. These letters described how proud he was to be a soldier. His mother, Linda, said Shawn wanted to show the Iraqi people how wonderful freedom could be.

Mr. Speaker, I commend the gentleman from Illinois (Mr. WELLER) for

honoring Army Private Shawn Pahnke. This post office is a deserved and permanent token of appreciation from a grateful Nation.

Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Ms. NORTON. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, as a member of the Committee on Government Reform, I am pleased to join my colleague in the consideration of H.R. 3537, legislation naming a postal facility in Manhattan, Illinois after Private Shawn Pahnke. This measure was introduced by the gentleman from Illinois (Mr. WELLER) on November 19, 2003, and unanimously reported by our committee on February 12, 2004.

H.R. 3537 enjoys the support and cosponsorship of the entire Illinois delegation.

Army Private Shawn D. Pahnke was a soldier from Shelbyville, Indiana, who was killed by enemy fire in Baghdad on June 16, 2003. Shawn Pahnke grew up in Manhattan, Illinois and graduated from Lincoln Way High School in New Lenox, Illinois. Continuing his family's tradition of military service, Shawn's father was a Vietnam veteran and his grandfather served in World War II. Shawn enlisted in the U.S. Army. He was assigned to Company C, 1st Battalion, 37th Armored Regiment, 1st Armored Division, Freidberg, Germany.

Sadly, at age 27, Private Pahnke was patrolling in a Humvee with other soldiers from his unit when he was hit by a sniper's bullet. He is survived by his wife, baby son, Dean, his parents and two older brothers. He was buried with honors and received a Bronze Star and Purple Heart.

Mr. Speaker, I commend my colleague for seeking to honor the memory of a fallen soldier. I urge the swift passage of this bill.

Mrs. MILLER of Michigan. Mr. Speaker, I yield as much time as he may consume to the gentleman from the State of Illinois (Mr. WELLER), the sponsor of this legislation, my distinguished colleague.

(Mr. WELLER asked and was given permission to revise and extend his remarks.)

□ 1445

Mr. WELLER. Mr. Speaker, I rise again today to pay tribute to another fallen brave hero from my home State of Illinois, a brave hero from the war on terror and Operation Iraqi Freedom, Army Private Shawn Pahnke.

Under the legislation I am offering today, H.R. 3537, the Manhattan, Illinois, United States Post Office will be renamed after Army Private Shawn Pahnke. I also wish to thank my colleagues in the Illinois delegation for joining me as original cosponsors of this legislation.

Private Pahnke was a main battle tank crewman with the United States Army 1st Armored Division's First Brigade. He was lost June 16, 2003, while

patrolling Baghdad in a Humvee on a security detail. Shawn enjoyed playing baseball and was relatively new to the Armed Forces and had only recently been stationed in Iraq when he was taken from us.

Shawn was the father to a newborn baby son, Dean, whom he never met. On the day of Dean's arrival, Private Pahnke spent most of the day on the phone with his wife, Elisha, talking her through labor and getting to hear the birth of his son and his son's first minutes in the world over the telephone. I have known Private Pahnke's father, Tom, for many years through his work as town administrator with the village of Manhattan, as well as his mother, Linda.

Mr. Speaker, this is a good family, a patriotic family that is very proud of Shawn's service in the United States military. Private Pahnke was much like the other two soldiers we will be honoring today, as he comes from a small town. Shawn's loss was a loss felt by family, by friends, and by the entire community in Manhattan; and while we in this Chamber today can never replace the memory of a lost father, husband or son, by passing H.R. 3537 we can ensure that the memory of this American hero endures in his hometown; and perhaps one day, when he is old enough to understand, baby Dean Pahnke will realize his father was truly loved, not only by his family but by the community and the Nation he served.

Our hearts and prayers go out to the entire Pahnke family.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to give H.R. 3537, renaming the Manhattan, Illinois, post office after Army Private Shawn Pahnke, their unanimous support.

Ms. NORTON. Mr. Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

Mrs. MILLER of Michigan. Mr. Speaker, I ask that all Members would support the passage of this important legislation, and I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. TERRY). The question is on the motion offered by the gentlewoman from Michigan (Mrs. MILLER) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 3537.

The question was taken; and (two-thirds having voted in favor thereof) the rules were suspended and the bill was passed.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

**MARINE CAPT. RYAN BEAUPRE
SAINT ANNE POST OFFICE**

Mrs. MILLER of Michigan. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 3538) to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 201 South Chicago Avenue in Saint Anne, Illinois, as the "Marine Capt. Ryan Beaupre Saint Anne Post Office".

The Clerk read as follows:

H.R. 3538

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. MARINE CAPT. RYAN BEAUPRE SAINT ANNE POST OFFICE.

(a) DESIGNATION.—The facility of the United States Postal Service located at 201 South Chicago Avenue in Saint Anne, Illinois, shall be known and designated as the "Marine Capt. Ryan Beaupre Saint Anne Post Office".

(b) REFERENCES.—Any reference in a law, map, regulation, document, paper, or other record of the United States to the facility referred to in subsection (a) shall be deemed to be a reference to the Marine Capt. Ryan Beaupre Saint Anne Post Office.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentlewoman from Michigan (Mrs. MILLER) and the gentlewoman from the District of Columbia (Ms. NORTON) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from Michigan (Mrs. MILLER).

GENERAL LEAVE

Mrs. MILLER of Michigan. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days within which to revise and extend their remarks on H.R. 3538, the bill under consideration.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentlewoman from Michigan?

There was no objection.

Mrs. MILLER of Michigan. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself as much time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, like the last two pieces of legislation, H.R. 3538 names a post office after a courageous young man who died while bravely fighting for our Nation in Iraq. This bill designates a postal service facility in Saint Anne, Illinois, as the Marine Capt. Ryan Beaupre Saint Anne Post Office.

Mr. Speaker, Captain Ryan Beaupre of Saint Anne, Illinois, was a pilot of a CH-46 helicopter that crashed in Kuwait on March 20, 2003, just days after the beginning of Operation Iraqi Freedom. Captain Beaupre died at the age of 30.

Mr. Speaker, prior to serving in the Marine Corps, Ryan Beaupre was a standout student at Bishop McNamara High School and Illinois Wesleyan University. In his spare time in Saint Anne, he enjoyed exercising and he volunteered at a homeless shelter. He is survived by his father, Mark; mother, Nicky; two sisters, Alyse and Kari; and a brother, Cristopher. I want to assure the Beaupre family that the thoughts and the prayers of all Members of this House are with them. With passage of this legislation, the Congress can forever commemorate Ryan Beaupre's sacrifice with a post office that bears his name in his hometown.

Mr. Speaker, serving in our Nation's military is perhaps the greatest contribution one can make for his or her country. Our Armed Forces serve the entire Nation at home and overseas with unparalleled loyalty and selflessness. Undeniably, Ryan Beaupre pos-

sessed these admirable characteristics. That is why I urge all Members to support this legislation.

Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Ms. NORTON. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

As a member of the Committee on Government Reform, I am pleased and proud to join my colleague in the consideration of H.R. 3538, legislation naming a postal facility in Saint Anne, Illinois, after Captain Ryan Beaupre. The measure was introduced by the gentleman from Illinois (Mr. WELLER) on November 19, 2003, and unanimously reported by our committee on February 12, 2004. H.R. 3538 enjoys the support and cosponsorship of the entire Illinois delegation.

Marine Captain Ryan Beaupre was a soldier and a pilot from Saint Anne, Illinois, who was killed in a helicopter crash in Kuwait on March 21, 2003.

Ryan Beaupre grew up in Saint Anne. He graduated from Bishop MacNamara High School in Kankakee, Illinois, and graduated from Illinois Wesleyan University in Bloomington, Illinois, with honors in 1995 and joined the Marine Corps in 1995 and was based at Camp Pendleton, California.

Sadly, at age 30, Captain Beaupre's CH-46 Sea Knight helicopter crashed, killing eight British and four U.S. Marines. He is survived by his parents, a brother, and two sisters.

Mr. Speaker, I note that Illinois Governor Rod Blagojevich, a former Member of Congress and a committee colleague, has commissioned two memorials to honor Illinois servicemembers who have lost their lives during the wars in Afghanistan and Iraq. Captain Beaupre, Staff Sergeant Hollinsaid, and Private Pahnke will be among the servicemembers honored. The memorials will be displayed in the State capitol rotunda in Springfield, Illinois, and the James R. Thompson center in Chicago.

Again, I commend my colleague for seeking to honor the memory of a fallen soldier and urge the swift passage of this bill.

Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mrs. MILLER of Michigan. Mr. Speaker, I yield as much time as he may consume to the gentleman from Illinois (Mr. WELLER).

(Mr. WELLER asked and was given permission to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. WELLER. Mr. Speaker, it has been an honor to have been the sponsor of H.R. 3538, as well as the two previous pieces of legislation honoring three fallen war heroes from my State of Illinois.

This legislation, H.R. 3538, the Marine Capt. Ryan Beaupre Saint Anne Post Office Designation Act, is just like the two previous bills considered by the House. Under H.R. 3538, the Saint Anne, Illinois, post office will be named after Marine Captain Ryan Beaupre, another Operation Iraqi Free-

dom hero from the 11th Congressional District of Illinois; and, again, Mr. Speaker, I wish to express my gratitude for my colleagues in the Illinois delegation for joining me as original cosponsors of this legislation.

Captain Beaupre was a helicopter pilot with the 1st Marine Expeditionary Force. He was lost on March 20, 2003, while piloting a CH-46 Sea Knight helicopter in Kuwait, 9 miles from the border with Iraq.

Ryan enjoyed competing in cross-country and track. He was also a volunteer in the community, volunteering at Home-Sweet-Home mission, a homeless shelter and transitional housing program. He attended Bishop McNamara High School and Illinois Wesleyan University in my congressional district.

I have had the opportunity to meet with Ryan's parents, Mark and Nicky Beaupre; and I can tell my colleagues that the Beaupre family is a very proud family, a very close family, and a very patriotic family.

Ryan Beaupre loved to fly. He enjoyed being a pilot, and he enjoyed being a Marine. Mr. Speaker, the words we speak in this Chamber can never be enough to truly understand what Ryan Beaupre meant to those who knew him. So, Mr. Speaker, I offer these remarks from Ann Harding, assistant director of Career Services at Illinois Wesleyan University, from the school's memorial page to Ryan Beaupre:

"When I got the news about Ryan's death, I immediately went through my many photo albums of IWU students. Suddenly Ryan's face was everywhere. What a great smile! Ryan worked for me in the Career Center. We stayed in touch after he started his job at State Farm. While he worked for me, he talked about his interest in learning how to fly. We even discussed the Officers Training Program. When he accepted the job at State Farm, I figured he put the idea out of his mind. Then a year later he called and said he had given his 2 weeks' notice and was joining the Marines. 'They're going to teach me how to fly,' he said.

"I was happy for him because he always kept his eye on his dream. To think he could have been as safe as I am in Bloomington, Illinois, had he not pursued the real dream. I admire Ryan and any one of you that goes after what you want. I know that until there was no time left, Ryan was doing everything right and to the very best of his ability. He was a smart and innocent man.

"To see so many alumni come back to the service on campus is a testament to a how close you all become in a short 4-year period. I will go to the services on Thursday in Saint Anne and be very proud to have known Ryan Beaupre."

Mr. Speaker, Ryan Beaupre died living a dream, a dream of flying, a dream of serving as a United States Marine, a dream of helping bring freedom and a better life to those in the Middle East.

The prayers of a grateful Nation and a grateful Congress go out to all the families that have lost a loved one in defense of America's freedom. I ask that the House honor the memory of Illinois' lost son, Marine Captain Ryan Beaupre, by passing H.R. 3538, renaming the Saint Anne, Illinois, post office after our fallen hero of the war against terror.

I especially want to thank my two distinguished colleagues, the distinguished gentlewoman from Michigan and the gentlewoman from the District of Columbia, for joining me on the floor today to help with this legislation and also thanks to my colleagues as well as ask unanimous support for this legislation.

Ms. NORTON. Mr. Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

Mrs. MILLER of Michigan. Mr. Speaker, I ask that all Members support the passage of this important legislation, and I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentlewoman from Michigan (Mrs. MILLER) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 3538.

The question was taken; and (two-thirds having voted in favor thereof) the rules were suspended and the bill was passed.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

CONGRATULATING DETROIT SHOCK FOR WINNING 2003 WOMEN'S NATIONAL BASKETBALL ASSOCIATION CHAMPIONSHIP

Mrs. MILLER of Michigan. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and agree to the resolution (H. Res. 392) congratulating the Detroit Shock for winning the 2003 Women's National Basketball Association championship.

The Clerk read as follows:

H. RES. 392

Whereas on September 16, 2003, the Detroit Shock won the 2003 Women's National Basketball Association championship, defeating the 2-time defending champion Los Angeles Sparks;

Whereas the Shock finished at the top of the Eastern Conference with an outstanding 25-win season;

Whereas the Shock defeated the Cleveland Rockers 2 games to 1 in the first round of the playoffs;

Whereas the Shock defeated the Connecticut Sun 2 games to none in the Eastern Conference finals;

Whereas in the finals against the Sparks the Shock won 2 straight games after losing the opening game;

Whereas Ruth Riley scored a career-high 27 points in the final game;

Whereas in the final game Deanna Nolan nailed a 3-pointer with 53 seconds remaining, and made 4 out of 4 free throws down the stretch;

Whereas 22,076 attended the final game, setting a new attendance record for the WNBA;

Whereas the Shock made an unprecedented turnaround in the 2003 season under the leadership of their coach, the former Detroit Pistons and NBA champion Bill Laimbeer, who was named 2003 WNBA Coach of the Year;

Whereas Coach Laimbeer and his staff of Laurie Byrd, Pamela McGee, and Korie Hlede provided strong leadership and solid coaching, resulting in a basketball team which has been undeniably dominant in regular and postseason play;

Whereas many other individuals have contributed to the Shock's success, including athletic trainer Laura Ramus;

Whereas the Shock's success resulted from contributions from the entire roster of players, including Swin Cash, Allison Curtin, Barbara Farris, Cheryl Ford, Kedra Holland-Corn, Sheila Lambert, Astou Ndiaye-Diatte, Deanna Nolan, Elaine Powell, Ruth Riley, Stacey Thomas, Petra Ujhelyi, and Ayana Walker;

Whereas 3 Shock players, Cheryl Ford, Swin Cash, and Deanna Nolan, were named to the all-WNBA second team;

Whereas Cheryl Ford was named 2003 WNBA rookie of the year, receiving 49 out of 54 possible votes;

Whereas Ruth Riley was named Most Valuable Player of the 2003 WNBA Finals MVP;

Whereas the WNBA and the Shock exemplify the highest standards of sportsmanship and success, and help to encourage the participation of women in professional sports; and

Whereas the Shock have displayed great strength, ability, and perseverance this season, which are all reflective of the hard-working people of the metropolitan Detroit region and the great State of Michigan: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the House of Representatives—

(1) congratulates the Detroit Shock for winning the 2003 Women's National Basketball Association championship and for their outstanding performance during the entire 2003 season, and congratulates all of the 8 WNBA teams who played in the postseason;

(2) salutes the achievements of all of the players, coaches, and staff of the Shock, who worked hard and who were instrumental in bringing the City of Detroit its first WNBA championship;

(3) commends the Los Angeles Sparks for a valiant performance during the playoff finals and for displaying their strength and skill as a team; and

(4) directs the Clerk of the House of Representatives to transmit an enrolled copy of this resolution to the Shock players, Head Coach Bill Laimbeer, and President and team owner William Davidson.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentlewoman from Michigan (Mrs. MILLER) and the gentlewoman from the District of Columbia (Ms. NORTON) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from Michigan (Mrs. MILLER).

GENERAL LEAVE

Mrs. MILLER of Michigan. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days within which to revise and extend their remarks on H. Res. 392, the resolution under consideration.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentlewoman from Michigan?

There was no objection.

Mrs. MILLER of Michigan. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself as much time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, H. Res. 392 congratulates the Detroit Shock for winning the 2003 Women's National Basketball Association championship; and first of

all, I would like to thank the gentleman from Michigan (Mr. CONYERS) for introducing this resolution, and I also want to thank all of my fellow colleagues from the Michigan delegation who have joined me in cosponsoring H. Res. 392.

Mr. Speaker, on September 16, 2003, the Detroit Shock defeated the 2-time defending champion Los Angeles Sparks to win their first WNBA championship. The Shock team is comprised of a wonderful group of women who continue the strong tradition of professional basketball in Michigan. In fact, the Shock are coached by one of the leaders of the 2-time NBA champion Detroit Pistons, the ultimate bad boy, the baddest of the bad boys, Bill Laimbeer.

□ 1500

Under the leadership of Coach Bill Laimbeer and of his staff of Laurie Byrd, Pamela McGee, and Korie Hlede, the Detroit Shocks made an unbelievable turnaround during the 2003 season to become champions. The team won 25 games last summer, after winning only nine games the year previously.

In an era where some athletes are embroiled in steroid scandals, salary contract negotiations, and legal battles, the women of the Detroit Shocks, and I think the entire WNBA serve as a valuable role model to millions of young girls. I applaud every member of the Shock roster for their dedication and for their hard work, and I thank them for their commitment to our community. Even though they are champions on the court, each member of the team is a champion in her own right off the court as well.

Mr. Speaker, the Detroit Shocks have made the metropolitan Detroit area and the great State of Michigan proud. In fact, 22,076 fans attended the final game of the season, which was a new attendance record for the WNBA. Three of their players, Cheryl Ford, Swin Cash, and Deanna Nolan were named to the all-WNBA second team; and Ruth Riley 2003 WNBA finals MVP. But unlike many professional teams in sports today, there are no individuals on this team. They are simply the Detroit Shocks, and they are champions.

Mr. Speaker, I support House Resolution 392.

Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Ms. NORTON. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

The Detroit Shocks proved they were the best team in the league last September when they came from behind and knocked out the two-time defending champions the Los Angeles Sparks before the league's largest crowd in history, with a score of 83 to 78.

The Shocks started the game with a 14-point lead, but the Sparks kept coming back. With less than a minute left in the game, Deanna Nolan nailed a three-pointer from the corner and gave the Shocks a 75-73 lead. Then Cheryl Ford hit three free throws and it was a four-point lead with 43 seconds left.